

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specifications as follows:

Before paragraph 1, insert the following paragraph:

This application claims priority from PCT/JP03/09960 filed August 5, 2003, which claims priority from Japanese Patent Application No: JP2002-234837 filed August 12, 2002 and Japanese Patent Application No: JP2002-229035 filed August 6, 2002, herein incorporated by reference in their entirety.

Page 2, lines 26 and 27, please make the following changes to the paragraph:

However, as a result of follow-up experiment conducted by Inventors herein based on the description in the above document, it has been found that the depositing reaction of iron hydroxide is unstable, and iron hydroxide layers sometimes cannot be sometimes effectively be deposited effective.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A method of manufacturing ferromagnetic particle exothermic elements for performing a deposition treatment for causing a treating aqueous solution containing fluorine and iron to contact nucleus particles, to deposit iron hydroxide and form layers around the nucleus particles, and an after-treatment for heating the iron hydroxide layers to change them into ferromagnetic layers, thereby producing ferromagnetic particle exothermic elements with outside of said nucleus particles covered by said ferromagnetic layers, wherein, in time of said deposition treatment, a reaction initiator that reacts with hydrogen fluoride is added to said treating aqueous solution.
2. (Original) A method of manufacturing ferromagnetic particle exothermic elements as defined in claim 1, wherein said reaction initiator is added to said treating aqueous solution successively as the time of said deposition treatment passes.
3. (Original) A method of manufacturing ferromagnetic particle exothermic elements as defined in claim 2, wherein said reaction initiator is added in small quantities at early stages of deposition of said iron hydroxide, and in increased quantities afterward.
4. (Original) A method of manufacturing ferromagnetic particle exothermic elements as defined in claim 3, wherein a hydrogen ion concentration (pH) in the treating aqueous solution and a molar concentration ratio (X) of fluorine to iron in the treating aqueous solution before addition of said reaction initiator satisfy relations $pH \leq 3.5$ and $X \leq 4$.
5. (Original) A method of manufacturing ferromagnetic particle exothermic elements as defined in claim 3, wherein a hydrogen ion concentration (pH) in the treating aqueous solution before addition of said reaction initiator and a molar concentration of iron (Y) in the treating aqueous solution after addition of said

reaction initiator satisfy relations $3.5 < \text{pH} < 6$ and $0.001 \leq Y \leq 0.5$.

6. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing ferromagnetic particle exothermic elements as defined in claim 4 or 5, wherein said treating aqueous solution has, dissolved therein, one or more iron raw materials selected from FeF_3 , FeF_2 , Fe_2F_5 , $\text{FeF}_3 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$, $\text{FeF}_3 \cdot 4.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$, FeCl_2 , $\text{FeCl}_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$, FeCl_3 , $\text{FeCl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$, $\text{Fe}(\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$, $\text{Fe}(\text{ClO}_4)_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$, FeBr_2 , $\text{FeBr}_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$, FeBr_3 , $\text{FeBr}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$, FeI_2 , $\text{FeI}_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$, FeO , Fe_2O_3 , Fe_3O_4 , $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_2$, FeOOH , $\text{FeSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$, $\text{Fe}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and Fe .
7. (Original) A method of manufacturing ferromagnetic particle exothermic elements as defined in claim 6, wherein said treating aqueous solution has, dissolved therein, one or more iron raw materials selected from FeF_3 , FeF_2 , Fe_2F_5 , $\text{FeF}_3 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and $\text{FeF}_3 \cdot 4.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$.
8. (Original) A method of manufacturing ferromagnetic particle exothermic elements as defined in claim 7, wherein said treating aqueous solution is prepared by dissolving said iron raw material in hydrofluoric acid.
9. (Original) A method of manufacturing ferromagnetic particle exothermic elements as defined in claim 7, wherein said treating aqueous solution is prepared by dissolving said iron raw material in a mixed solution of hydrofluoric acid and an ammonium fluoride aqueous solution.
10. (Original) A method of manufacturing ferromagnetic particle exothermic elements as defined in claim 8, wherein said reaction initiator comprises one or more additives selected from H_3BO_3 , FeCl_2 , FeCl_3 , NaOH , NH_3 , Al , Ti , Fe , Ni , Mg , Cu , Zn , Si , SiO_2 , CaO , B_2O_3 , Al_2O_3 and MgO .
11. (Original) A method of manufacturing ferromagnetic particle exothermic elements as defined in claim 9, wherein said reaction initiator comprises one or more additives selected from H_3BO_3 , FeCl_2 , FeCl_3 , NaOH , NH_3 , Al , Ti , Fe , Ni , Mg , Cu , Zn , Si , SiO_2 , CaO , B_2O_3 , Al_2O_3 and MgO .